

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 24, 2005. Claims 1 to 14 remain in the application, of which Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies and thoughtful treatment accorded Applicants' undersigned representative during the September 8, 2005 telephonic interview. This Amendment has been prepared based on that interview, in which no agreement was reached. Specifically, Applicants' undersigned representative and the Examiner discussed the claims in view of the cited reference to Yoshino, but no agreement was reached on the allowability of the claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 1 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,169,414 (Yoshino). Reconsideration and withdrawal the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns the acquisition and display of data of a measurement target, such as a solar battery. According to the invention, a data acquisition computer program acquires the data, and a separate a data display computer program generates display data based on the data acquired by the data acquisition program, with each of the programs being executed independently under a multitasking function of an operating system. In order for the display program to generate the display data, the data acquired by the data acquisition program is exchanged between the programs via interprocess communication. The two programs are controlled based on a priority of the programs such that, if the display program fails, the data acquisition program continuously

acquires the data, but if the data acquisition program fails, the display program is stopped. For foregoing aspect of the invention is supported by the description found at page 11, lines 12 to 20, and page 17, line 11 to page 18, line 21 of the specification.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claim 1 is an information processing apparatus for accumulating data of a measurement target, the apparatus comprising an acquisition section, arranged to acquire the data of the measurement target by independently executing a computer program for data acquisition, and a display section arranged to generate information to be displayed, based on the acquired data, by independently executing a computer program for display information generation, wherein the acquisition section and the display section exchange data by interprocess communication, the data acquisition computer program and the display information generation program are executed under a multitasking function of an operating system, and wherein execution of the data acquisition program and the display information generation program is controlled based on a priority of the programs.

Independent Claims 7 and 13 are method and computer medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

Independent Claim 14 includes features along the lines of Claim 1, but also includes additional features. Thus, Claim 14 is an information processing apparatus for accumulating data of a measurement target, the apparatus comprising an acquisition section, arranged to acquire the data of the measurement target by independently executing a computer program for data acquisition, a display section, arranged to generate information to be displayed by independently executing a computer program for display information generation on the basis of the acquired data supplied to the display section by

the acquiring section by interprocess communication, a recording section, arranged to record the data obtained by the interprocess communication on a recording medium, by independently executing a computer program for data recording, a communication section, arranged to transfer data obtained by the interprocess communication to another information processing apparatus connected to a network by independently executing a computer program for data transfer, and a management section, arranged to control operations of the acquisition and display sections in accordance with priorities of the acquisition and display sections, by independently executing a computer program for operation control, wherein all of the computer programs of the acquisition, display, communication, and management sections are provided as an integrated computer program which integrates the independent computer programs, and the computer programs are executed under a multitasking function of an operating system, and wherein execution of the data acquisition program, the recording program, and the display information generation program is controlled by the operation control program based on a priority of the programs.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of independently executing, under a multitasking function of an operating system, a computer program for acquiring data from a measurement target, and a computer program for generating display information on the basis of the acquired data, wherein the programs exchange data by interprocess communication and execution of the data acquisition program and the display information generation program is controlled based on a priority of the programs.

Yoshino is seen to disclose that a system for measuring a voltage output characteristic of a solar cell. According to the patent, various light sources are applied to the solar cell in order to produce a voltage output. The voltage output is measured based on the various light sources and the output voltage data characteristic is stored in a computer. The stored voltage output data can then be output, either internal to the same computer in which the data is stored, or to another computer or a printer/plotter, so that a data display program can generate a graphical display of the voltage output characteristic. Thus, while the data measuring program and the display program may be executed separately, Yoshino is silent as to controlling the execution of the programs based on a priority of the programs. Accordingly, amended independent Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable over Yoshino.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. Kmett", written over a horizontal line.

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